

TITLE: Prohibited Activities - US Army Forces Central Command Personnel serving in Saudi Arabia

1. This General Order is applicable to all U.S. Army Forces Central Command personnel located in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on a temporary or permanently assigned basis, to include DA Civilians, or other civilians operating in support of USARCENT, or soldiers being supported by USARCENT. Commanders are directed to readdress this order to their units and ensure wide dissemination to the lowest levels of command.

2. STATEMENTS OF MILITARY PURPOSE AND NECESSITY: Operations in USCENCOM AOR countries place personnel of this command in countries where Islamic law and customs prohibit or restrict certain activities which are generally permissible in western societies. Restrictions upon these activities are essential to preserving U.S.-Host Nation relations.

3. The following activities are prohibited:

a. Purchase, possession, use or sale of privately-owned firearms, ammunition, explosives, or the introduction of these items into the USACENCOM AOR.

b. Entrance into a Mosque or other site of Islamic religious significance by non-Moslems unless invited, directed to do so by military authorities or by military necessity. This provision may be made more restrictive by the Commander when the local security situation warrants.

c. Introduction, possession, use, sale, transfer, manufacture or consumption of any alcoholic beverage.

d. Introduction, possession, transfer, sale, creation, or display of any pornographic or sexually explicit photograph, computer software, videotape, movie, drawing, book, magazine, or similar sexually explicit representations. For purposes of this order, the words "pornographic" and "sexually explicit" means any medium which displays human genitalia, uncovered woman's breast or any human sexual act. The rental, purchase or viewing of print media and videotapes (to include MWR issued videotapes) at government or AAFES facilities in Saudi Arabia, as well as programs shown over government owned or leased cable television systems in Saudi Arabia, are not violations of this General Order.

e. Gambling of any kind, including sports pool, lotteries, raffles, and bingo. Gaming activities that do not cost the participant anything of value to play are not violations of this General Order.

f. Removing, possessing, selling, defacing, or destroying archeological artifacts

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or national treasures.

g. Selling, bartering, or exchanging any currency other than at the official exchange rate.

h. Introduction, possession, use, transfer, or sale of narcotics, controlled substances, and drug paraphernalia. Prescription drugs must be accompanied by the original prescription label of the participating medical facility or authority.

i. Proselytizing of any religion, faith, or practice.

j. The wearing of suggestive or otherwise inappropriate clothing in public areas outside of western environment, e.g., revealing blouses, short skirts, tight pants, shorts (men and women), earrings (men), ostentatious jewelry (men and women), etc.

k. The wearing of clothing with provocative or inflammatory artwork, slogans, emblems, or nation symbols in public areas.

4. **THIS ORDER IS PUNITIVE.** Persons subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice may be punished under Article 92, UCMJ, for violating a lawful general Order. Civilians accompany the Armed Forces of the United States may face adverse administrative action.

5. All persons subject to this order are charged with the individual duty to become familiar with and respect the laws, regulations, and customs of their host nation insofar as they do not interfere with the execution of their official duties. Individual acts of insensitivity or flagrant violations of host nation laws, regulations and customs may be punished as a dereliction of duty under Article 92, UCMJ. Civilians accompanying the Armed Forces may face adverse administrative action.

6. Unit commanders and supervisors are charged to ensure that all personnel are briefed on the prohibition of these activities.

7. Items which violate this General Order should be seized as contraband and evidence. Commanders or law enforcement personnel should coordinate with their servicing Judge Advocate concerning disposition of offenses.

8. This General Order will expire upon the withdrawal of USARCENT personnel, military and civilian, from the USCENCOM AOR unless sooner rescinded, waived or modified.

9. Authority to waive or modify the prohibitions of this order is withheld.

TOMMY R. FRANKS

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Lieutenant General, US Army
Commanding General